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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1904.

The School Book Question.

The resolution offered in the Senate yes terday, which asked for a single list of text books to be chosen by the State Board of Education for primary and grammar grades in the public schools, has for its support both reason and ex-

The State Board of Education is composed of men who, both by their saucation, character and judgment are in the highest degree capable of choosing books for the public schools of this State, We believe that the question of school books is one which should fundamentally be decided by experts in school teaching, and we have no better body to which the question could be left than to the State Board of Education as at present constructed. The multiple list, which authorizes each board of local trustees to choose themselves books for their districts, was doubtless designed to give the greatest flexibility to the system of choosing books with the idea that this would work the greatest benefit to each locality. Upon closer examination, however, the multiple system does not appear to bear out thes cobjects. In theory, no doubt, the children of some-sections of the State would need books differeing from those required for other sections, but at the bottom, the children all have practically the same innate capacity for learning, for they all, thank Heaven, are of Virginia stock and ancestry and the slight disadvantages of early opportunity can be, and is, readily overcome. We do not think that the desired advantages of the multiple system, which allows a board of trustees to choose any one of a number of text books, begins to out. weigh the obvious disadvantages which this system is beginning already to show.

It practically throws down the bars to old and thoroughly discredited methods of gaining adherents for certain books. Personal solicitation, direct and indirect inducements of all sorts will be brought to bear on trustees of the local boards, who are not able to decide these questions by the relative value of school books any better, if as well, as the State Board. But none the less, the large companies will send an agent to every school district, and as the country boards all meet by law on the same day, the smaller companies will be at a fearful, if not insurmountable disadvantage.

The question of deciding the question of the school books under the multiple system is thus greatly increased, ever if no other methods are used than the mere sending of sample copies, and the cost of this campaign of enlightenment is borne by the taxpayers of the State, for ately raised.

It is, therefore, our deliberate judgment that it will further the cause of education and civic righteousness in this State to have the State Board of Education adopt a single list of books for the pri mary and grammar grades in our public schools throughout the State.

War at Last.

Contrary to the expectations of many hostilities have broken out between Japan and Russia, and the war is on in carnest Japan did not wait to receive Russia's latest note, but the Mikado's government doubtless knew what the note contains and anticipated it by breaking off diplomatic relations with Russia and making ready for the inevitable conflict. The Japanese have long felt that Russia was threatening their very existence as a nation and that her delay in coming to terms was for the purpose of strengthening her position. They went on with diplomacy and submitted to delay until they felt that they could no longer in safety do so, and when they did make up their minds to fight, they lost no time in striking the first blow. With singular boldness and enterprise, if we may use such a term, they sent their torpedo boats ngainst the Russian fleet at Port Arthur. thus bearding the bear in his den and striking a decisive blow at the start; and so Japan draws first blood and gets a

clear advantage. She already had the advantage of the situation, for the war is to be waged largely at her own doors, or at least, at points very much nearer to her base of supplies than is the case with Russia, If Russia could bring all her fleets and armies to bear, the contest would not last long, for Russia is far richer and more powerful, and has a much larger army and navy than Japan.

In 1904 the peace strength of the regular army of Japan was 143,649 officers and

and three of the third, six armored druisers, fourteen small protected cruisers, three torpedo gunboats, fifteen destroyers and twenty-five large and thirty-three small torpedo boats. Since that time she has added several vessels

to her navy. The Russian army is the largest in the world. The peace strength of the active army in 1902 was as follows: Infantry, 24,176 officers and 726,811 men; cavalry 5,171 officers and 121,722 men; artillery, 5,978 officers and 171,5% men. The war strength is approximately 75,000 officers

Russia maintains three separate fleets, one in the Black Sea, one in the Baltic, and another, the largest and most important, in the Pacific Ocean and the China Sea: In addition, she has squadrons n the White and Casplan Seas. In 1902, she had nine first-class battleships, fifteen of the second-class, two of the thirdclass, twenty-four cruisers, seven coast defense vessels, forty-eight gunbonts and a large number of tobacco boats, But only a part of her fleet is available in this war, and while she has a considerable army in the far East, most of her men are several thousand miles away from the field of battle.

It will be seen from this, that in spite of Russia's greater strength in the aggregate, Japan meets her in the East on fairly even terms.

If the contest is to be fought out by hese two nations alone, it is hard to say which has the best chance of winning. Of course, Japan will never conquer Russia. The best that she can hope for is to bring Russia to terms and make her grant the concessions for which she has been contending. But if Russia should win. she would make the terms very hard for her conquered foe. She would practically take control of Korea, which is to all interests and purposes a part of Japan, and she would give Japan little chance in Manchuria. The nations of the earth would not allow Russia to subjugate Japan and make it Russian territory, but if Russia should conquer she would undoubtedly make the terms of peace very hard. It is a desperate situation for Japan, and she will make a desperate fight. It may be, however, that Russia will not force the fighting; that she will withdraw to the inland and leave Japan to wear herself out in a fruitless hunt for her foe. But Russia's plan of campaign remains to be disclosed.

Indications now are that other nations will not become involved. Russia cannot call upon France unless China or some other nation should so to Japan's help, Even then she would be slow to summon bring England to the aid of Japan, and Russia is not anxious to measure lances help her, The chances are, therefore, that the other nations will stand aloof, and let sisting only that China shall not be disturbed. CESSON.

The Evacuation Fire.

"The evacuation fire," Monday, April 3, 1865, compared with the fire from which Baltimore has just suffered, seems to States to abandon secession after the surhave been a small affair; but, considering the conditions of the two communities. Richmond's affliction was as great as

the Monumental City's is.

The loss was from eight to ten million but it came at a time when the community was exhausted by four years of war. Moreover, the city had lost its outside trade: the merchants were without credi and without stocks of goods; the people had not foodstuff to last them for a week; the slaves were all freed, and the future seemed as black as midnight.

The fire began-was kindled-in Shockee and in Von Groning's warehouses, on Shockon Slip. Later other tobacco warehouses were fired, and after the Confederate troops had crossed the river, upon All of this was done by military orders.

There was an act of Congress requiring tobacco and cotton to be destroyed before any military post was abandoned. The bridges were, of course, destroyed as a measure of military precaution. flames were kindled. As the day went on. and looting and pillage were freely indulged in, it is possible that deliberate incendiarism also played its part in the tragedy of the day. But the great fire originated as we have said.

The flames swept from Mayo's warehouse, at the foot of Fourteenth Street. up to the Tredegar Works in one direction, and to Main Street in the other. On Cary Street and the south side of Main the fire extended from below Fourteenth to Ninth: on the north side of Main from below Governor Street to the corner of Eighth, and on Bank Strest from Twelfth to Ninth. The State Courthouse, in the Capitol Square, fronting Twelfth Street, was destroyed. So were nearly all the buildings on the square where the Kellam Hospital now stands. The present front and columns of the First National Bank withstood the flames. The postoffice building was very little hurt. The Mechanics' Institute (War Department), on Ninth Street, went down, and Dr. Reid's Church, at the northwest corner of Franklin and Eighth Streets, also were destroyed.

Among other structures destroyed were Danville Railroad depot, the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad depot, the American and Columbian Hotels, the Dispatch. Enquirer and Examiner newspaper offices, Mayo's, Shockoe, Public and other tobacco warehouses, and the State Armory Some tobacco warehouses between Twen tieth and Twenty-second Streets, were also fired and burned, as were the Confederate Navy Yards, on both sides of the river, at Rocketts, and a dozen of more tobacco factories. The Haxall-Crenshaw Mills escaped. At one time the Capitol building was on fire, but was put out by some passers-by. The Spotswood Hotel square escaped, though the fire raged on the opposite square on Main

The wind that day blew from the south east. When the fire started at sunrise men, and the war strength over c00,000. the wind was scarcely perceptible, but In the same year she had four battle it soon rose, and continued brisk for

o'clock, when, by the aid of the Federal military, the citizens were able to check

This Year's Issues.

Recently the Spirit of the Valley expressed its surprise that Democrats who, supported Mr. Bryan in 1896 should now have the assurance to condemn him for standing up for his principles. "If those principles were sound in 1896 and 1900," adds the Spirit of the Valley, "they are sound now, and Mr. Bryan would be a demagotue und a time-server il he deserted them."

The South Boston News, which was one of Mr. Bryan's most loyal supporters in 1806, takes issue with the Spirit of the Valley, and says:

"Conditions have changed. Experience has clearly demonstrated that Mr. Bryan's policy and the measures he so ably advocated in both of his celebrated campaigns, 1806 and 1900, were discounted by a very large majority of the people, and that apprecedented prosperity has followed the principles and policies that Mr. Bryan and his followers so strenuously denounced. As a matter of fact, the 'principles' advocated by Mr. Bryan ously denounced. As a matter of fact, the 'principles' advocated by Mr. Bryan were not, sound, and the very mon who were his most ardent admirers and supporters in 1890 and 1990 are thoroughly convinced of that fact, and will now heartly oppose what at that time was thought to be best for the interests of the entire country, as well as for the success of the Democratic party. There is a certain class that never change, you know. The next great buttle will be fought on different lines and perhaps with better results as to the success of the Democratic party." the Democratic party."

Our South Boston contemporary makes sufficient answer to the Spirit of the Valley when it says that conditions have changed since 1806. At that time business was terribly depressed. Money was scurce, and many believed that the remedy for the evil was an increased supply of money. Therefore, they advocated the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 10 to 1, and were entirely honest and conscientious in their position. Since that time, however, there has been a large increase in the supply of gold, and many who advocated free silver contend that the prosperity which followed our increased gold supply verifies their contention that a greater volume of metalic money was needed. But as the supply has been met with the yellow metal and as prosperity has come, the demand for free coinage of silver has disappeared.

It is idle to go into a discussion of this question at this late day, for all such argument is a matter of theory and speculation. But it is a fact that the volume of gold money has been enormously increased, that prosperity has come under the gold standard, and that there France to her ald, for that would be to is no occasion for any change in our standard of value. It is useless to discuss the question as to which side was with Great Britain, even with France to right and which side was wring. Democrats were honestly disagreed, but there is no longer any occasion for disagreethe Jap and the Rus. fight it out, in- ment on that score. It is sensible, therefore, for Democrats to put this dead issue aside and unite heartily and earnestly in an effort to elect their candidate this year. It is no abandonment of principle for Democrats to abandon free silver, any more than it was an abandonment of principle for the Southern render at Appoinattox.

"Pass This Measure." Under the above headline the Norfolk

Landmark says: "For years we have been urging the necessity of some law that will force county supervisors to make regular itemized public reports of receipts and disbursements. There has long been a law requiring that such statements be posted annually, but as the law carries no penalty for infringement, it is a dead letter, except where the supervisors vol-

untarily obey it.
"The Ould bill, as amended by the
House of Delegates, provides for com-pelling the supervisors to post semipelling the supervisors to annual itemized statements annual itemized statements of received and disbursements and to publish such statements simultaneously in a paper of the county or one published in a najoining county or city. There is no other sure way in which to give the received withlights.

needed publicity.
"That publicity is important in such mattres every sensible man knows. The Roanoko World, which has been looking over the last report of the State Auditor, discovers that in one county for the over the last report of the State Auditor, discovers that in one county for the fiscal year ending June 31, 1963, the sum of \$44,408 was charged up to contingent expenses, while in another this indefinite classification involved over \$21,000. As the World says, nothing more surely spurs a public official to his duty than the knowledge that he must give an account to the state of count of his stewardship regularly to his constituents,' and 'Virginia has been entirely too careless' in this regard.'

In point of fact, it was The Times-Dispatch that called attention to these Items of "contingent expenses," But that is of no consequence. The important thing is the fact that in some of the countles the "contingent expenses" run up into thousands and there is nothing in the reports to the Auditor to show for what purpose this money was expended. Our Norfolk contemporary will be interested to know, if it does not already know, that the county which turns in the incidental expense account of \$44,000 is the county of Norfolk.

The Ould bill has passed the House and it should pass the Senate also, It is a much-needed measure, and we be lieve it will be a blessing to the taxpayers.

Confederate Muster Rolls.

The letter of the Secretary of War to Governor Montague, published in our issue of yesterday, denies the request made by him and other Governors for advance proof sheets of the muster rolls of the Confederate army, now being compiled along with those of the Union

In the publication of the roster of Federal and Confederate troops, the govern ment will adhere to the plan it pursued in the publication of the War Records. It will not use any material except such as is included in an official record of the war period.

The Secretary of Wan says that, as he views the law, it was the intent of Congress to publish and thus make accessible to the various States all the historical data that are contained in the 'original rolls' in possession of the War Department, or that may be found elseshins of the first-class; two of the second, some hours; but it had lulled by 11, or 12 where. This information thus placed at Harum version of the golden rule



the disposal of the States, he says, will enable them, if they so desire, to pile their own rosters in their own way using as a source of additional information their pension list, or any other data that may seem to them to be sufficiently reliable to be incorporated into the ros-

The Secretary assures Governor Montague that this rule will be applied impartially to Federal and Confederate rolls. It would seem to be more important now than ever before for Virginia to go ahead on her own account, and com pile her own rolls as far as she is able to find the material therefor. Use can be made, of course, of the originals when printed by the War Records' Office at Washington, but it will be necessary to supplement them with other data.

Under an act of Assembly, which was drafted by General Bradley T. Johnston the rolls of many companies in recent years have been compiled by survivors and placed on record in the County Courts. They, of course, are still to be found among the records, and contain valuable material. The work then begun and not completed should be pushed forward now with the greatest possible energy.

We suppose the Bureau of Confederate Archives, proposed by Senator Daniel and Judge Christian, will be established by act of Assembly. In that event and by employing two or three active, energetic men-hard workers-much valuable material may yet he found in the State and copied and compiled, and in the course of time prepared for publication.

The case seems to be about this: Virginia may have access to the government records when they are "issued." They are by no means complete. We doubt if they are more than half complete. The rest of the information we desire must be acquired by the State through its agents, and these agents to be successful, will have to operate under the direction of the proposed Bureau of Confederate Archives. Furthermore it is to the interest of Virginia to furnish the War Records Office with all the original "official" information we can gather before our rolls are complied by that office.

In another column we print a list of books specially prepared by Mr. Kennedy, State Librarian. As will be seen from the titles, the volumes deal extensively with Japan, her people, her resources, and her history, and in the present crisis in the far East they will prove of particular interest to the public. The books cannot be distributed, but they are at the State Library, and are open to all who wish to put them to use. In The Times Dispatch of to-morrow we shall endeavor to give a similar list of books treating of Russia and Russian subjects.

The most marvelous thing about the Baltimore fire was that it was free from loss of life. In that respect it stands unparalleled among the great fires of the world. The fact that it began in the daytime and on Sunday, when there were few people in the business district, accounts in large part, we suppose, for this fortunate exemption.

Great as is Baltimore's affiction, it is not to be compared with the loss of the 600 people who perished miserably in the Iroquois Theatre in Chicago.

Two ground hogs kept in captivity in Durham N C. did precisely what they were by tradition called upon to do on cobruary 2d. They came out, saw their shadows, returned into their holes, and have been seen no more since. The aged darky who owns them vouches for the truth of this story, but is not surprised He believes in the ground hog as a weather prophet.

There are millions and tens of millions of dollars in currency and coin, and in A No 1. securities locked up in safes and vaults which lie beneath the ruins of Baltimore banks and other business houses. The recovery of this vast wealth will be watched with grave concern, We hope none of it will be lost,

Inasmuch as Baltimore cannot now handle it, there would be no harm for Richmond to hustle for some of that Southern spring trade that usually goes to the donumental City.

As soon as the weather gets a little settled and the insurance companies comnence to do a little sattling, Baltimore will begin to put on her Phoenix regalia

The war map now has the stage. In he language of Hon. Grover Cleveland, 'let it go it." The motto of exposition enterprises is

'If you don't see what you want, ask Uncle Sam for it." The Bible in the public schools ques

tion is yet in the hands of the preach-Look out for another big conflagration. Did you never notice that such disasters rarely come singly?

According to one of our correspondents even a tame ground hog knows his busi-The "quarantining" of Old Point

against the outside doctors will not necessarily cause a panie in Hampton. The upcountry supply of mud is now about due at the Richmond water works. The Japs evidently believe in the David

........................ Trend of Thought In Dixie Land -----

Nashville American: Republicans more interested in the result of the Louis Convention than they are in Chicago Convention.

Houston Post: And in reply we warn Mr. Crumpacker, we warn this country, that his deplotable policy has brought our nation into grave danger, and if persisted in will bring upon us a great controversy, which will threaten our very foundations.

Mobile Register: As it is agreed that the treaty is going to be ratified, why not do the deed at once and relieve the public mind? Cortainly no good can come to the country or to the Democratic party by further delay.

Macon (Ga.) Telegraph: When Mr. Hardwick, of the Tenth District, makes another courageous and able speech in the House of Representatives on the subject of the war amendments, he might profitably refer, in confirmation of his position, to the criminality of the negroes and the growing impatience of the whites in Philadelphia.

in Philadelphia.

Austin (Tex.) Statesman: Mr., Bryan has invaded the blue grass region of Kentucky with his eloquenes, and is still harping upon Mr. Cleveland's financial polloy, and to embrace the two extremes he let into Colonel Watterson, hoping that his sins would be forgiven him in his old age. It is a pity Mr. Bryan cannot forget and forgive—that is the polloy now.

A Few Foreign Facts.

Colombia, exclusive of Panama, is as large as the two States of California and Texas combined. Three high mountain ranges cross the republic from north to south, making high tablelands between, where the days the year 'round are scarcely hotter than those of a temperate zone.

Cardiff exports 12,000,000 tons of coal a year; Newcastle about four million. Newport and Sunderland each ship abroad about two million five hundred thousand tons a year.

A German medical paper reports that at a school inspection in Brandenburg an eight-year-old boy was presented who weighs 12s pounds and stands five feet three and a half inches. The young prodigy is physically and mentally well developed.

A Flemish artist has produced what is said to be the smallest painting in the world. It is a picture of a miller mounting the stairs of his mill and carrying a sack of grain on his back. The mill sack of grain on his back. The mill sack at hand are a horse and cart with a few groups of peasants idling in the road near by. All this is painted on the smooth side of a grain of ordinary white corn, it is necessary to examine it under a microscope, and it is drawn with perfect accuracy, it does not cover a half inch square, and it is in many respects one of the most remarkable art products of the day.

North Carolina Sentiment.

The Wilson Times comes to the help on the much abused Governor in this manner the much abused Governor in this manner. If you don't like the way Governor Aycock pardons criminals, why in the name of common sense do you keep sticking your name to every heart-rending petition for executive clemency that is stuck under your nose? You haven't the moral courage to say "no" when you see the petition, and yet you think he ought to be brave enough when he is confronted with a paper to which is appended all the names in the community, together with all the uncles, cousins and aunts of the criminal, with the trial judge and jurors to boot.

The Charlotte Observer says:
Yes, the American dealing with Cuba has been in the highest degree creditable. We have lost much, have gained nothing of value. But we have taken the heel of the oppressor off the neck of a people, and are entitled to their gratitude and to the approbation of a good conscience. The Fayetteville Observer makes this

observation:

It is important to note, in considering the scope of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the South Dakota bond sult against this State, that the court avoided (perhaps, evaded) attacking the sovereignty of the State as such by resting its claim to jurisdiction upon the circumstance that the bonds in question were secured by a mortgage on property which is not State property. The Reidsville Review says:

The Reidsville Review says:
It seems to us if the Democratic party
could not win with the silver coinage
plank when it was a real issue, it would
be folly to inject it in the platform now
when it is admitted that it is not and
cannot be an issue. We need the votes
of those people this particular "plank"
drove away in the last two elections to
holp elect the ticket now.

Concerning police statistics in dry towns, the Durham Herald remarks: Maybe the kind of people who are able to send out of town and get it are not the kind that usually figure in the Police Court anyway.

Personal and General.

Henry Phipps has given \$20,000 to the Johns Hopkins Hospital to establish a clinic for consumptives. General James H. Wilson, of Wilmington, Del., is in Denver, Col., seeking material, it is said, for a new book.

William D. Bishop, Sr., for many years prominently identified with the management of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, died last week.

Professor F. E. Lloyd, of Columbia University, has received a grant from the Botanical Society of America to carry on researches at the Desert Botanical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution, at Tucson. Ariz.

Miss Susan Hicks Beach, the daughter of the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer of the British Empire, has posed as Britannia for a new coin, and the original design of the figure is now a cherished possession of Sir Michael and his family.

With a Comment or Two.

With a Comment or Iwo.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch says;
"Several newspapers, notably the Chirlotte Observer, refuse to believe that Mr.
Cleveland is not in it." You have the
wrong contemporary. The Observer has
taken Mr. Cleveland at his word, that he
is out of it; but it has expressed enphatically its opinion that he is the ono
Democrat who, if nominated, would surely be elected.—Charlotte Observer.

We stand corrected.

Richmond is very much disturbed about the Bible in the public schools, and the question is being very much discussed. Of course, there will be no agreement reached unless it is for its exclusion.—Fredericksburg Star.

The "disturbance" is not confined to Richmond. It is a State matter, for it may finally get before the Legislature.

The shipyards have nothing to do with the mandatory character of the United States statutes. There is a specific requirement that after each census the congressional districts shall be properly apportioned, and Virginia so far has been in absolute defiance of this provision. Newport News Times-Dispatch.

The above refers specifically to the mattack of severageing the First and Second ter of rearranging the First and Second Districts. The former is undersized, and the latter is larger in population than the

law allows, CERMAN ALLIANCE (FIRE) IN-SURANCE ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK: assets \$12,000,000. (ALL IN AMERICA.) W. W. Hardwicke, Agent.

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Voice of People and

Issues of the Day

Public Cleanliness. Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,-In the discussion on the above ubject I notice that one lady writes: Dirt has to be thick and deep and deadly for a man to see it. On the whole he doesn't mind it. A woman can see a square off what a man wouldn't recogise close at hand.'

nise close at hand."
Another hidy writes, in reference to expectorating on sidewalks: "We are constantly in fear of ruining our clothes."
Then the editor writes: "Time and again The Times-Dispatch has urged the women of Richmond to take this matter in hand."
The trouble is that instead of taking it in hand, they have undertaken to

t in hand, they have undertaken clean the streets with their skirts.

Robert Burns wrote:
"O would some power the giftle gie us
To see ourselves as others see us,
It would from many a blunder free us
And foolish notion:

And foolish notion:
What airs in dress and gait would leave us,
And even devotion!"
"Acty is no cleaner than its dirtiest part" can also be applied to people. When women stop sweeping the filth off the streets with their dresses and show that they mind dirt; thick and deadly, men may then follow their example and try to banish dirt from the city. try to banish dirt from the city.

R. F. R.

Life That Is Worth Living. Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,-Anent the discussion. "Is life worth living?" (if you have not already done so), might it not be well to reproduce in your columns Longfellow's mmortal psalm? When he speaks o "great men" (supposing he alludes to conspicuous men) "leaving footprints on the sands of time." But I cannot think he meant to confine the lesson to only the conspicuous great. For many an humble man, nobly performing his daily task, and murmuring not, but "acting in the living present." though in a very whited sphere, and of whom the world knows little or nothing. Yet he may be making "footprints" that mark the way to high and noble achievements; and thus thwart or prevent many a "shipwreck" on the great and solemn main. For how true it is that "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure."

A Subscriber. 'great men' (supposing he A Subscriber

Richmond, Va. (Longfellow's "Psalm of Life" appeared in The Times-Dispatch October 15, 1903.— Ed. Times-Dispatch.)

How to Work the Roads.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir.—At least one of your subscribers halls with delight something *ko an organized effort of a body of our most intelligent citizens to press the Legislature to enact a State aid law for the permanent improvement of our high-ways. ways.

This is an opportune time, as the State's financial condition gives less excuse for the cry, "There are no funds available." But such a plea is never available." But such a pica is never-valld, for however poor the State may be, this great cause should share with others the State's revenues. Every man of ordinary intelligence-who has considered this matter sees the prime necessity for good roads, and he-tered with 10 his representative in the

should write to his representati Legislature to enact at once before the money is spent for something else. State ald law.

State aid law.

A sine qoa non of such a law is the provision that whatever money may be appropriated should be under the control of competent, experienced State officers, for, if anything has been clearly demonstrated, it is that the ordinary Virginian knows nothing about building demonstrated, it is that the ordinary virginian knows nothing about building roads. A law without this provision is not worth the paper it is written on.

It might be wise also to provide for working convicts in building better roads. But of this there may be some doubt. Of the enactment of a State aid kny, with proper provisions for its intelligent execution, there is none.

Capitalists who own property in the state, and pay the larger tax are ready

Capitalists who own property in the State, and pay the larger fax are rendy for it. The people of our cities, through their representatives in the last Legislature, have shown their willingness for it. The reliveds are urging it, and for those who live in rural districts, and who receive the greatest henefit, to be the only obstacle in the way of better country rands does seem to be againing stupidity. ceive the greatest hencett, to be the only obstacle in the way of better country roads, does seem to be asinine stupidity. Permanent road improvement does not mean an expenditure of from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per mile, except in rare histances. It is claimed now that an ordinary graveled road is almost, if not quite, as good as a macadam road, where the travel is not heavy. In North Carolina and in some parts of Virginia, simply grading properly and sanding the clay portions of roads make an admirable road.

The way to have better roads and remove the disgrace of the present condition of things is to start the work. It would be a less reproach to the State to make many mistakes in striving for better things than to be content to do nobting.

A SUBSCRIFIER.

SENATORS FROM KANSAS.

Hoodoo Which Seems to Attach to Line of "Fated Succession," John J. Ingalle's "fated auccession" is

recalled to mind by the present trouble in which Senator Burton finds himself. The brilliant Atchison statesman himself. The brilliant Atolison statesman so designated the line of Kansas United States senators that started out with General James H. Lane.

Those in the "fated succession" were James H. Lane. Edward G. Ross, Robert Crealer, Alexander Caldwell, James M. Harrey, Preston B. Flumb. Bishop K. Ferkins, Jean Martin, Lucien Baker and

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3d. BRAZE IT WITH

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The second is only temporary, as patch works loose.
The third is immediate, cheap and permanent. Which do you prefer? Cameron-Tennant Machine Works, 'Phone 1185. 2404 E. Main Street.

> YOU CAN get snow-bound, but never "COLD" bound if you use "COLD STOP," on if the safeat and best remedies Guaranteed to break up the wors COLD in a day and night.
>
> 25c. at All Drugglets.

POLK MILLER DRUG CO.

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the present Schator J. Ralph Burton. Line committed suicide. Ross committed political suicide by voting against the inpreaement of Andrew Johnson and was driven out of his party. Crozer, who served about a year by appointment, died inipeachment of Andrew Johnson at was driven out of his parity. Crozier, who served about a year by appointment, died without leaving a single mark by which his brief senatorial career can be remembered. Caldwell resigned after two years' service to escape investigation. Harvey, although he had been Governor of his State and had made a fairly good reputation as such, made a very insignificant senator, and was, after three years' service, defeated for ro-election and dropped out of political life. Plumb died in office at Washington. Perkins served a brief term by appointment and is scarcely remembered us a senator, hattin served two years and left the Strate poorer in purse and with less prestige than he possessed when he went in. Baker was almost a total failure, and his crushing defeat for reclection at the hands of Burton is silli warm in the memory of the poople of Kansas.—Topeka (Kansas) Capitol.

WARD LUMBER.

A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR